

Another Fair In The Books

Story & Pictures By:
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Another Thomas Co. Fair is in the books. Fair week began on Monday, July 22, with judging of clothes and styling completed by nine 4-Hers from Blaine and Thomas Co. Tuesday was perfect weather for the horse and small animal shows. Wednesday was the livestock show. Thursday the 4-Hers bought in their static exhibits, while others bought in items for open class.

Two rodeo performances were held on Friday and Mid-Nebraska Tractor Pullers, Bruce and Cindy Ash from Arcadia, again bought their pedal tractors. Thirty-two youth from age 3 years to 12 years pulled. A community picnic, corn hole tournament and night golf were enjoyed at the golf course, rounding out the day's activities.

Saturday the day kicked

off for 42 youth and their parents in the annual fishing tournament, while at the Life Center one could begin the day with biscuits and gravy. The Art Gallery showcased their Open show from 8 to 4 p.m. The parade was at 11:00 from the ballpark to Custer Public Power District lot, then all activities went to the fairgrounds.

Parade theme - 150 years of Progress - 1st Place float went to Amazing Grace Church, 2nd to Thomas Co. 4-H Achievers, 3rd to Thedford FFA. Winning the Family category - With Love Photography Co. - Bridget Licking had her children, Katen, Grady, and Heston, help her portray "150 years through the lens." Her husband, Russell, drove the flatbed that held their float.

Grand marshal was Thedford's native son, Tony Booth. He is a graduate of Thedford, a Vietnam veteran, and

owner/operator of Opheim-Booth Repair until last year when health issues forced him to close the business.

Thomas Co. Historical Society provided their lunchstand, Thedford Service Club sponsored the Laser Tag, Security 1st Bank sponsored the Bingo, and the Ag Society sponsored the turtle races where Hudson Warren had the overall fastest turtle and Kennedy Hoffman's was second. The Ag Society also sponsored the inflatables water slides, mud volleyball tournament, and the barbecue. Thedford Area Community Foundation Fund brought by back popular demand, Dueling Pianos which closed out Saturday fair activities. Sunday the Legion and Auxiliary provided a pancake breakfast before the community-wide church service on the courthouse lawn which was the official end of the 2019 Thomas Co. Fair.



American Legion Post honor guard. John Bryant, driver and Terry Higgins begin the 2019 Thomas County Fair parade.



This year's parade grand marshal was Tony Booth. He is pictured along with family members. Also in the back of the car was Miss Heartland, Allie Swanson.



Over 40 area youth gathered in downtown Thedford so they could participate in the annual fishing tournament. The tournament was started by Louie Herbaugh, and is now organized by Bruce and Trisha McMillan.



Youth participated in the Mid-Nebraska Tractor Pull. Here Bruce Ash from Arcadia, helps a young contestant, Taryn King, get underway as Grandma Pat Neben snaps a picture. Also pictured is Taryn's baby brother, Lane.



Amazing Grace Church took first place in the float division.



New this year, prior to night golf, a corn hole tournament was held. At left is Robert Mills and Gordon Needs, and Jim Mills and his unknown partner, left.



"150 Years Through The Lens" was the theme of the With Love Photography float that won first place in the family float category during the Thomas County Fair Parade. Bridget Licking is joined on the float by her three children, Katen, Grady and Heston, while husband Russell was the driver.

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